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OO RUEHAG RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLZ RUEHROV
DE RUEHSM #0575 2321536
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3687
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS BE IMMEDIATE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 000575

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR PREL PGOV RU GG SW

SUBJECT: TFGG01: SWEDEN CANCELS JOINT RUSSIAN MILITARY

EXERCISES

On August 18, Prime Minister Reinfeldt announced the unilateral cancellation of all visits, meetings, and shared exercises with Russia. Reinfeldt reiterated Sweden's position that Russian troops must cease with activities aimed at destabilizing Georgia, must retreat to behind the lines they held before the hostilities broke out, and the humanitarian aid must be allowed to reach the civilian population. This freezing of military cooperation affects nearly 20 visits planned for 2008/2009 in Sweden, Russia and the Baltic Sea. Opposition leader Mona Sahlin expressed her party's full support for the cancellations.